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MYSURU Saturday 8th January 2022
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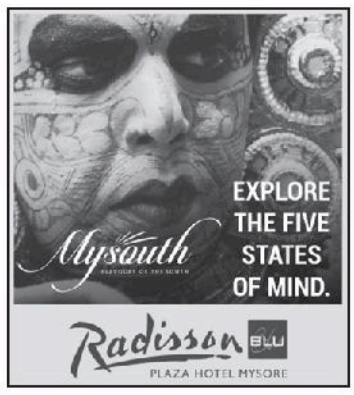

Surge in COVID cases keeps officials on toes

DC visits COVID Care Centre at Mandakalli; 200 beds readied

Mysuru, Jan. 8 (MTY&BCT)- Mysuru yesterday reported a single-day spike with 219 new cases of COVID-19 and two new COVID clusters. Clusters have been reported for the first time in the last one-and-a-half years after the initial one that was reported from Nanjangud.

On Thursday, only 65 cases were reported and cases have now spiked to 219. The District Administration swung into action soon after the steep spike and Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr. Bagadi Gautham visited the KSOU COVID Care Centre (CCC) near Mandakalli on Mysuru-Nanjangud Road yesterday and inspected the facilities.

The administration is preparing to reopen the CCC in case positives increase further. As of now, the infected are being treated at the District Hospital and Private Hospitals and also many are in home isolation. The Health Department is ready to open all the facilities like in the second wave and they can be stepped up within two to three days.

DC Dr. Bagadi Gautham** (left) **inspecting the COVID Care Centre** (right) **at Mandakalli yesterday.

The clusters have been identified at BCM Hostel, Chamanahalli, T. Narasipur with eight cases and another at RBI Colony in Mysuru city that has seven cases. Health Department officials have taken preventive measures and have stepped up testing of all the primary and secondary contacts of the positive persons in the clusters.

District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. K.H. Prasad told *Star of Mysore* that the sudden spike has been reported as people were casual during their New Year trips, parties and other large-scale events that were held in Mysuru during Christmas and New Year. "We are ready with a plan of action and will implement the same but people must exercise restraint," he said.

Yesterday, Mysuru city recorded 163 positive cases out of the total 219 new cases. 29 have been reported from T. Narasipur, 11 from K.R. Nagar taluk, 9 from Nanjangud, 5 from Mysuru taluk, two from Periyapatna and zero cases from H.D. Kote, Hunsur, Sargur and Saligrama.

As per the data released by the District Administration, 12 children aged 17 and below have tested positive in Mysuru city and of them, two are below 5 years , four are in the 6-10 age group and six are in the age group of 11-17.

(See CASES on page 6)

To Our Readers

Turn to Page-6 for Abracadabra titled ***"A Place Apart: English translation of some Kodava poems."*** **—Ed**

Health Officers hold dry run to face third wave

District Health Officer Dr. K.H. Prasad** (left) **chairing a meeting at his office in city this morning.

Mysuru, Jan. 8 (MTY&BCT)- Health Officers of Mysuru are holding a series of preparedness meetings to face the COVID third wave and at the same time tackle Omicron infections.

A day after Mysuru reported a steep spike in COVID infections — 65 on Jan. 6 to 219 on Jan. 7 — the District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. K.H. Prasad chaired the meeting at his office this morning to assess the bed situation, COVID Care Centres (CCCs), operational oxygen plants, status of medicines and other necessities in the entire district.

Those present in the meeting included Reproductive and Child Health Officer (RCHO) Dr. M.S. Jayanth, District Surveillance Officer Dr. T. Shivaprasad, National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme Officer Dr. Chidambara, District Leprosy Officer Dr. Manjuprasad, District Tuberculosis Officer Dr. Sirazz Ahmed, District Health and Family Welfare Officer Dr. Ravi and District Immunisation Officer Dr. Shivashankar.

(See OFFICERS on page 6)

Four including woman killed in road accidents

Mysuru, Jan. 8 (RK&DM)- The first week of the New Year has proved to be disastrous for city two-wheeler riders as at least half a dozen of them lost their lives in road accidents that took place in different parts of the city.

In the latest road accident this morning, a woman, who was riding pillion on a scooter, was killed on the spot when she was run over by a lorry near GRS Fantasy Park on Ring Road.

Chitra (35), wife of Kumar, a resident of Belavatta, was travelling from Belavatta towards Royal Inn Junction on KRS Road, when a speeding glucose powder-laden lorry knocked down the scooter from behind at about 9 am.

As a result, both the rider and the pillion rider fell down onto the road when the lorry ran over Chitra.

The rider, who has been identified as Shobha, sustained injuries and was rushed to JSS Hospital.

Chitra, an employee of a factory at Hebbal, was travelling to work along with Shobha. V.V. Puram Police, led by Inspector Aruna Kumari, visited the spot and conducted mahazar, before registering a case.

A 65-year old moped rider succumbed to his injuries late last night. The deceased is **Sheikh Mohideen** (65), a resident of Rajivnagar. He was knocked down by a speeding car on the Ring Road in Devanur Third Stage at about 6.45 pm yesterday as he approached the road from a LPG gas agency.

Mohideen was shifted to Narayana Multispecialty Hospital, where he breathed his last a couple of hours later.

Siddarthanagar Traffic Police have registered a case.

(See ACCIDENTS on page 7)

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Saturday 8th January 2022

JCI Zone 14 Annual Project Planner held in city

Mysuru, Jan. 8 (KS) - The first Annual Project Planner for JCI Zone 14 was held at Terapanth Bhavan in city recently.

Zone President Kunal Manakchand inaugurated the first day's seminar chaired by Zone Director for Programmes Jc Asha Jain.

Past EVP Siddalingappa, who was the chief guest and keynote speaker PNP Ramesh Batavia addressed the gathering. Past President Jc Prakash Dak, who was the guest of honour, highlighted the achievements of JCI Mysore Chapter and greeted the newly elected National Vice-President Jc Vikas Gugaliya and his wife Khushi Gugaliya as the President for 2022.

Earlier, the President of JCI Mysore Royal City welcomed. Elected Zone Officers and Chapter Presidents from different parts of Karnataka participated.

Disposal of old newspapers, magazines by Central Library

Mysuru, Jan. 8 (ASC)- The Department of Public Library, District Central Library Main Branch and other branches that come under it across the district, will be disposing of the old newspapers and magazines published in the year 2020-21 as per the procedure. Interested parties may send in quotations from Jan. 10 to Jan. 28 during the office hours.

For details, contact Ph: 0821-2425975 or 2425875, according to a press release from District Central Library Dy. Director.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

At this stage, we need a pragmatic strategy of saving lives, both in the short and long term. We cannot continue to simply repeat the measures deployed during the initial days of the global pandemic late into its second year. Several narratives, including Zero COVID and herd immunity through natural infection, have failed to be standalone exit strategies. This infection will remain endemic with seasonal outbreaks for many more years. No single magic solution will work. Exiting the pandemic will require multipronged actions. These include universal availability of vaccines, increased testing and enhanced surveillance measures while also using appropriate technologies to combine and use databases of infections, clinical care, and public health actions. At the same time, the revised control programme has to guide context-specific, locally relevant measures. It needs to put up a graded response to area-specific case surges and dips, including when schools are closed or reopened.

A revised case definition is the first essential step in this direction, in addition to remedying vaccine injustice throughout the world. Cohesive action is required at the global level and WHO is well-positioned to take the lead in such a response.

— Giridhara R. Babu in The Times of India

NEWS SPARKLERS

Twins born on different days in different years

California: Twins born in California have achieved an extremely rare feat - their birthdays fall in different years. Recently, a pair of twins was born just 15 minutes apart in different years and they will have to celebrate their birthdays in different dates.

In a rare case, the first of the twins named Alfredo Antonio Trujillo was born at 11.45 pm on New Year's Eve (Dec. 31, 2021) and the second one named Aylin Yolanda Trujillo said hello to Earth exactly at midnight in 2022.

Their mother Fatima Madrigal said it's "crazy" to her that her twins will have different birthdays. Both the babies were born healthy. Natividad Medical Center - the Salinas Hospital that delivered the babies - estimates the likelihood that twins are born in different years is about one in two million.

Man hopes to marry robot he is in love with

Queensland: An Australian man who has given up on finding a human partner claims to have found the next best thing – a humanoid robot named Emma.

Ever since his mother died a decade ago, Geoff Gallagher from Queensland, Australia, had only his dog, Penny, to soothe his loneliness. He read an article about robots powered by artificial intelligence and decided to look into them. He found some intriguing commercially-available models, but at 6,000 Australian dollars ($4,350) each, they weren't exactly cheap. They could move their head and neck, smile, and even talk, so he decided they were worth the shot. He was not disappointed...

Even though they aren't legally married, Emma does wear a ring on her finger and Geoff likes to think of her as his robot wife, and he'd love to one day be the first person in Australia to marry a robot.

HEALTH CAPSULE

What are the treatment options for kidney stones?

Adequate water intake, medication, laser lithotripsy, extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy (ESWL) and keyhole surgery (PCNL) depending on the size, location, and hardness of stones

By Dr Dinesh Kumar T. P. - Consultant Urology
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Filing of delayed Income Tax return

Mysuru, Jan. 8- The last date for filing Income Tax return for the Financial Year 2020-21 (Assessment year 2021-22) was Dec.31, 2021, which is over now. The tax-payers who have not filed their Income Tax return can still file before Mar. 31, 2022, with a fee for delay in furnishing the return of income.

As per the Income Tax rules, fee is payable under Section 234F of the Income Tax Act for non-filing of returns before due date of 31.12.2021. Tax-payers can file their Income Tax return for the FY 2020-21 by paying a fee of Rs.5,000 where the total income, after allowing applicable deductions and exemptions, exceeds Rs. 5 lakh. If the total income is less than Rs. 5 lakh, fee will be Rs.1,000 only.

There will be no late fee for those whose total income is within the threshold limit of exemption. Those tax-payers who have already filed their Income Tax return and wish to file a revised Income Tax return, they can still file the revised return before Mar.31, 2022, according to N.D. Shreenivaas of Bhavani Associates, Mysuru.

REALLY...?

- *The sport of wrestling dates as far back as before 3000 BC. There are ancient drawings in caves depicting wrestling moves and techniques still used to this day. The earliest known literary references to the sport appear in the Old Testament and in the Vedas.*
- *Wrestling was referenced in the oldest book in the world - The Bible.*
- *It was Greco-Roman wrestling that was an event in the first modern Olympic Games in 1896 in Athens, Greece.*
- *In 1904 freestyle wrestling became an Olympic event.*
- *In 2004 women's freestyle wrestling became an Olympic event.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Why did the music teacher need a ladder?
To reach the high notes!!

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 74.23
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 100.89
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.21
1 Euro	= Rs. 84.33

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

	JANUARY 6	JANUARY 7
Day's Positive Cases	65	219
Total Positive Cases	1,80,510	1,80,729
Day's Discharges	6	9
Total Discharges	1,77,808	1,77,817
Day's Deaths	0	0
Total Deaths	2,428	2,428
Total Active Cases	274	484

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

VOICE OF THE READER

Weekend curfew imposition: A citizen's perspective

Sir,

As an ordinary citizen I am disappointed by the imposition of curfew during the weekends across Karnataka.

As per Dr. Soumya Swaminathan of WHO, imposition of curfew is an exercise in futility and it only inconveniences the public.

In what way a family traveling in a car on a Highway will increase the COVID cases? The moot point is how does the pandemic spread — by contact or through air?

As an *aam aadmi,* I believe if the Government is really serious about controlling the spread of the virus, then simply impose Section 144 throughout the State, ban all types of congregation of people — be it political, religious or academic.

Strictly enforce wearing the mask not only in cities but also at the village level. One sees thousands of people attending marriages with hardly 4-5 people wearing the mask.

Curfew would be more effective and meaningful if all the outlets /places where people tend to gather are shut down ensuring strict compliance without banning vehicular movement.

It is unfortunate that all the political leaders irrespective of party affiliation do not insist on their supporters to follow all the COVID protocols in any political function or rallies. The political leaders should be role models in strictly enforcing COVID appropriate behaviour among their followers. Only then the public will follow suit.

Since the first weekend curfew is already enforced, I hope the Government will consider my suggestion in the larger interests of common man in the ensuing weekend curfews and ensure minimum inconvenience to general public during the period.

—K.C. Biddappa
Sr. VP, ITC Ltd. (Retd.)
Mysuru
7.1.2022

Health Minister rules out lockdown

Bengaluru, Jan. 8 (UNI)- While advocating a "duck and fight" strategy, Health Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar yesterday said the Government does not have any intentions of enforcing a lockdown despite increasing number of COVID cases.

Dr. Sudhakar

"The Government does not have any intention to clamp a lockdown. Lockdown was imposed in the State when there were no vaccines and no information on the kind of havoc COVID would play. Now India has vaccines and experienced two waves where it did well to restrict the virus," he told reporters here.

People should not panic over an increase in positivity rate because the virus does not behave violently in people who have been either partially or fully vaccinated, Dr. Sudhakar said.

"COVID cases will increase. You cannot run away from it. You have to adopt a 'duck and fight' strategy. In Karnataka, 99 percent of the population has been partially vaccinated and 80 percent fully vaccinated. Vaccinated people are not virulently infected by COVID or Omicron. Therefore, I request the people to get themselves vaccinated," he said.

Dr. Sudhakar said it is impossible to stop the arrival of international visitors to India, but it is possible to restrict the spread of the virus by taking strict measures, without disturbing the business and commercial activities of the people."Even the Indian Government has made it mandatory for international arrivals to undergo seven-day home quarantine," he said.

Earlier, 107 new Omicron cases were reported in the State on Jan. 6, taking the overall tally to 333.

Webinar on 'Innovations and Advancements in Food Protection and Grain Storage' at CFTRI

Dr. Sridevi Annapurna Singh, Director, CSIR-CFTRI, inaugurating the webinar on Jan. 5.

Mysuru, Jan. 8- CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CSIR-CFTRI), Mysuru, had organised a webinar on "Innovations and Advancements in Food Protection and Grain Storage" on Jan. 5. It was themed on five different research fields related to stored grain protection from insect infestation, namely, "Grain storage management", "Pesticides and insect toxicology","Hermetic storage technology", "Insect pest management" and "Fumigation technology."

Dr. Sridevi Annapurna Singh, Director, CSIR-CFTRI, inaugurated the programme by lighting the lamp along with Head and staff members of Food Protectants and Infestation Control (FPIC) Department, CFTRI.

Professional experts working in the field of integrated pest management from scientific and industrial domains delivered talks.

During the inaugural session, Dr. Sridevi Singh discussed about country's current situation with respect to post-harvest management of food systems and the necessity of immediate actions in the current scenario.

Dr. Prakash M. Halami, Head of FPIC Department, spoke about the current innovations and advancements in the field of food grain protection such as Grain ATMs, utilisation of PICS bags and silo bags for grain storage and importance of hermetic storage technology.

Dr. Nachiket Kotwaliwale, Director, ICAR-CIPHET, Ludhiana, emphasised on minimising food loss and wastage as technological solutions for protection and storage.

Dr. S. Senthil Nathan, Professor in Manonmaniam Sundaranar University in Alwarkurichi, Tamil Nadu, explained about the importance of developing environmental soft pesticides from a researcher's perspective.

Praveen Gupta, Country Manager in GrainPro Ltd. spoke on significance of hermetic technology as a sustainable solution to post-harvest problems. Problems and prospects associated with stored product pest management in India was explained in detail by Dr. S. Subramanian, Principal Scientist, Division of Entomology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

Dr. S. Rajendran (Retd. Scientist, CSIR-CFTRI and currently working with UPL Ltd. as a Technical Consultant) provided insights into the role of fumigation technology in food protection in context to Indian subcontinent.

The webinar focused on the ongoing research and technological advancements the world is witnessing with respect to food protection and safety. It provided an opportunity to young Indian scientists and students working in scientific labs and Institutions to interact with experts directly during the event. A total of 138 participants who had registered for the online webinar will be receiving e-Certificates.

Online workshop on 'Intellectual Property with Emphasis on Food Processing'

Mysuru, Jan. 8- CSIR-CFTRI is organising a one-day online workshop on "Intellectual Property with Emphasis on Food Processing" on Jan. 19 under the CSIR Integrated Skill Initiative for the benefit of Entrepreneurs / Startups working in the area of Food Processing.

The workshop will focus on Intellectual Property Rights in Food Processing through the innovation driven industry where IPR skills are most essential. Faculty from Industries and Academia will be delivering the Lectures, Guidelines of filing IPR, Innovation in Food Science & Technology and related areas, Biodiversity act along with a few case studies. For details visit: *https://cftri.res.in/PDF/Brochure_IPR_Workshop.pdf* or e-mail: *pmc@cftri.res.in* or contact Ph:0821-2515320.

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Ovarian cancers are the 3rd most common type of cancer in Indian women. Around 32,000 women die due to advanced ovarian cancer every year in India. Advanced ovarian cancers (Stage III & selected Stage IV) involve inner lining of abdomen called peritoneum. It was once considered to be incurable and only option patients had was to receive palliative chemotherapy. Due to advances in surgery, even this can be cured in selected patients. Cytoreductive Surgery (CRS) is the complex surgical procedure performed in these patients, which includes excision of all tumours with involved organs with excision of peritoneum (peritonectomy). At the end of procedure, intraperitoneal chemoport (IP Port) is attached to give chemotherapy after the surgery or heated chemotherapy (42degree Celsius temperature) is instilled inside abdominal cavity and maintained for 90min using perfusion pump (Hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy-HIPEC). Total procedure lasts for 6-10hrs. PIPAC (Pressurised intraperitoneal aerosolised chemotherapy) is a newer treatment modality. Chemotherapy agent is converted into aerosol using a nebuliser and instilled inside abdominal cavity by key-hole surgery. Other than considering it as palliative treatment, good responses have been documented with better quality of life compared to chemotherapy.
Dr. Ramya Y.
Consultant - Surgical Oncology
Apollo BGS Hospitals, Mysore
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NEWS BRIEFS

Convention postponed

Vishwarushi Valmiki Charitable Trust, which had organised a convention to discuss about increase in SC, ST reservation and their compensation, solution for problems faced by Parivara and Talavara community people and Job Generation Scheme on Jan. 9 at 10.30 am, has been postponed due to weekend curfew. The rescheduled date will be announced shortly, according to a press release from Trust Secretary M. Nagendra Yadakola.

Curfew: Aadhaar Seva Kendras closed

Both Aadhaar Seva Kendras (ASKs) at Vijayanagar and Saraswathipuram in city will remain closed on Saturday and Sunday (Jan. 8 & 9) due to weekend curfew announced by the Karnataka Government, according to a press release from Col. N.G. Krishna Prasad (Retd.), Centre Manager, ASKs, Mysuru. All persons coming to the Aadhaar Seva Kendra must show their double vaccination certificate before entry.

Kabutar Daan Project

Helping Hands - Jain Youth Organisation, Mysuru, celebrated completion of 7 years of its Kabutar Daan Project and New Year 2022 by feeding the pigeons with food grains at Kabutar Daan venue in city. New calendar for 2022 was also released on this occasion by Helping Hands President Mahaveer Khabiya, Secretary Anand Patwa, Treasurer Rajan Baghmar and others.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80	feet
Today	:	123.14	feet
Yesterday	:	123.14	feet
Inflow	:	1,754	cusecs
Outflow	:	1,548	cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00	feet
Today	:	2,283.13	feet
Inflow	:	329	cusecs
Outflow	:	400	cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00	feet
Today	:	2,855.62	feet
Inflow	:	348	cusecs
Outflow	:	50	cusecs

Rail traffic hit as goods train derails on Mysuru-Bengaluru line

Mysuru/ Bengaluru, Jan. 8 (BCT)- A derailment of a goods train led to delay in the running of several trains from Mysuru towards Bengaluru on Friday evening. Four wheels of the 21-coach train with open wagons veered off the tracks.

Trains were delayed by over two hours, causing inconvenience to the passengers disrupting peak hour traffic between Mysuru and Bengaluru. The incident occurred at around 3.10 pm at Nayandahalli near the Binny Mill side of KSR Railway Station in Bengaluru when four wheels of a wagon of the train that had unloaded rail panels at Kengeri derailed.

According to a press release by the Railways, the train stopped near KSR Bengaluru Station (home signal) and this led to temporary blockage of one of the two lines. The railways arranged movement of trains by 'temporary single line working on double line'

Trains running from Mysuru to Bengaluru were operated through the 'Down Line' that was monitored by senior officers of the division. According to Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Bengaluru Division, A.N. Krishna Reddy, nine 'up trains' and two 'down trains' were delayed.

Among the trains delayed were Mysore-Kochuveli Express that was delayed by 202 minutes at Nayandahalli, Mysore-Bagalkot Express that was delayed by 205 minutes at Kengeri, Mysuru-Chennai Express that was delayed by 78 minutes at Kengeri and Bengaluru-Mysuru Passenger that was held up for 91 minutes.

South Western Railway said there was no casualty or injury to any person, including railway staff. Rectification and re-railing works were executed and train services on 'up line' from Nayandahalli towards KSR Bengaluru were restored at about 5.34 pm.

Land grabbing at Lingambudhipalya, Kergalli

Revenue team led by Mysuru Dy. Commissioner surveys area

The team led by DC Dr. Bagadi Gautham and comprising Additional DC Dr. Manjunathaswamy, Assistant Commissioner Kamalabai, Tahsildar K.R. Rakshit, Deputy Director of Land Records Seemanthini and MUDA Commissioner Dr. D.B. Natesh surveyed Lingambudhipalya, Kergalli and Yadahalli.

Mysuru, Jan. 8 (SBD&BCT)- A team of Mysuru District Revenue officials, led by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr. Bagadi Gautham, yesterday inspected vast swathes of land in the south-eastern part of Mysuru to ascertain land grabbing by certain powerful individuals.

The State Government had asked the DC to probe complaints of land encroachments in certain survey numbers of Kergalli and Yadahalli villages in Jayapura hobli and Lingambudhi and Dattagalli villages in Kasaba hobli of Mysuru taluk.

The DC was asked to verify land records of a few survey numbers following complaints about alleged encroachment of Government land in the region and he was asked to submit a report in this regard. In October last year, the DC had written to the Principal Secretary of Revenue Department seeking four months' time to investigate.

After getting the Government order, the DC had formed a panel on Sept. 9 last year comprising Additional Deputy Commissioner, MUDA Commissioner, Mysuru Assistant Commissioner, Tahsildar, Deputy Director of Land Records, Assistant Director of Land Records, Urban Planning Officer, Land Surveyors and other staff.

The Deputy Commissioner had told the Government that at least four months are required for a thorough scrutiny of the records which were submitted by the panel on Sept. 20 and submission of a comprehensive report thereafter.

The physical survey work was delayed till now due to COVID work and also Dasara celebrations. Yesterday, the team led by the DC and comprising Additional DC Dr. Manjunathaswamy, Assistant Commissioner Kamalabai, Tahsildar K.R. Rakshit, Deputy Director of Land Records Seemanthini and MUDA Commissioner Dr. D.B. Natesh surveyed Lingambudhipalya, Kergalli and Yadahalli.

The Government had ordered the DC to look into the land position as the previous Mysuru DC Rohini Sindhuri, based on a complaint of land mafia filed by an RTI activist, had ordered the examination of certain lands that have been allegedly encroached by people having political clout.

Following the order, Munish Moudgil, Commissioner of Survey, Settlement and Land Records ordered an investigation. Later, the State Government withdrew his order and entrusted the Deputy Commissioners of Mysuru and Mandya to probe the encroachments.

Precious stones plundered from Pattighat in Kodagu

The 30-ft pit dug up to extract precious stones.

Madikeri, Jan. 8 (PS&BCT)- Rampant illegal mining of precious stones has been reported from Pattighat Reserve Forests (Nishane Motte) near Bhagamandala of the Western Ghats under the very nose of the Forest Department and those who are duty-bound to protect it have now been accused of openly allowing plunderers to loot the forest wealth.

These smugglers are unearthing gemstones from the forests with the help of locals and selling them at a premium to luxury hotels, jewellery shops, spas and massage parlours. These virgin forests are an integral part of Kodagu and the Western Ghats and except for wild animals and Forest Department staff, no one — not even cattle — is allowed inside.

In such a forest, covered with fully grown trees, deep pits are dug and mud is lifted out and loads and loads of mud are sieved for precious stones, especially red ones, resembling rubies. Ironically, the Forest Department camp and the tents where they stay guarding the jungles are located metres away from the places that have been dug up and still, this has not come to the notice of the Department.

The Pattighat Reserve Forests begin at the very end of Thannimaani village that can be reached from the entrance gate of Bhagamandala via Karike Road. One has to trek around a six-kilometre area that is full of ravines and steep gorges to reach there. The Reserve Forest is spread across 2,200-hectare land and joins the Subramanya-Kadamakal Forests.

While Subramanya Range Forest comes under Dakshina Kannada, Koojimalai, Suttathmalai Pushpagiri Wildlife Sanctuary and Pattighat (Nishane Motte) comes under the jurisdiction of Kodagu district. Public entry has been banned here and unfortunately, this ban is a blessing in disguise for smugglers to carry out the illegal stone mining.

WELL-CONCEALED OPERATION

When the first report of this rampant precious stone mining was reported by some local villagers of Bhagamandala a week back, teams from the Forest Department were sent to inspect the area. But strangely, the inspecting teams did not find any pits dug up deep inside the forest. They only found mounds of mud from where the pits were dug and the same was reported by the teams to their higher officers.

Even as the Department justified that there are no pits, local villagers said that a little bit of effort would have unearthed the entire racket as the pits were cleverly covered with hay stack, small wooden blocks and mud.

The pits were finally spotted on Jan. 6 by the Forest Squad personnel who were accompanied by Assistant Conservator of Forests Mohiseen and Chairman of Karnataka State Western Ghats Task Force, Shantheyanda Ravi Kushalappa.

MINING NETWORK SPREAD OUT

According to people in the know of things, this mining activity has been going on in many reserve forests around Kodagu especially in the Bhagamandala region for the last 20 years. Before the Pattighat was declared as a Reserve Forest, the illegal mining was concentrated on one or two locations from where the stones were extracted. However, after the Reserve Forest restrictions came into place, mining spread out to many locations.

For instance, one deep pit that was used to excavate soil was closed in 2020 with cement. Recently, another 4-ft wide and 30-ft deep pit has been dug nearby and from there, another 'L' shaped pit has been dug up connecting this deep pit, shocking the Forest Squad.

ORGANISED GANGS CAMP IN WOODS

So organised the gangs are that many earth-digging implements, pulleys and ropes to pull out mud, sieves, cooking vessels, fireplaces and iron rods and pipes have been recovered indicating that the smugglers camp inside the area, set up fireplaces and even prepare food. How can this be possible without the Forest Department knowing, ask local villagers. The stones earlier used to fetch a price of Rs. 500 to Rs. 700 per kg, now costs over Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 50,000 per kg, making it a lucrative deal for smugglers. The illegal trade was first reported in the 1990s at Subramanya Forest Range and Pushpagiri Ranges. Gradually, the trade spread to Madikeri and Bhagamandala ranges.

Once the stones are extracted, they are polished and marketed to massage parlours, five-star hotels and spas. Once polished, the texture and appearance of the stones change and they look similar to precious gemstones.

Jewellery shops too purchase these precious stones and they are sold with actual precious stones. The stones, in different colours, are used in 'hot stone massage', 'aromatherapy' and the quality is decided on the stones texture after polishing ■

Forest Dept. complicit, says MLA; seeks high-level investigation

The Forest Department base camp at Pattighat.

The tent set up by forest watchers 10 metres from the pit.

Excavation materials camouflaged to prevent detection.

Regular affair since 2007

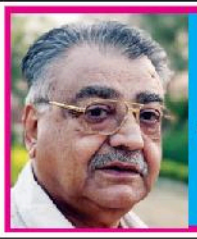
"Illegal mining at Pattighat Reserve has been rampant since 2007 and the name of an influential person from Madikeri circling around the racket. All the investigation that has been conducted so far is just an eye-wash and only lower-rung Forest Department staff has been the targets. All the senior officers who have been in-charge of Pattighat Reserve Forests since 2007 must be investigated for the truth to come out. It is clear that the Forest Department is complicit. I will press for a detailed investigation and impress upon the Government to conduct a high-level probe."

— K.G. Bopaiah, MLA Virajpet

1 guard, 2 watchers missing

"Our inspection clearly establishes the involvement of Forest Department staff and without their knowledge, no one can enter the core area of the Reserve Forests. This is a classic case of the fence eating the crop. Villagers here say that some unscrupulous Forest Department officers take bribes up to Rs. 5 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh to allow mining once inside the forests. One forest guard and two watchers are missing from duty and they must be arrested."

— Shantheyanda Ravi Kushalappa, Chairman of Karnataka State Western Ghats Task Force



Abracadabra... Abracadabra...

By K.B. Ganapathy

A Place Apart: English translation of some Kodava poems

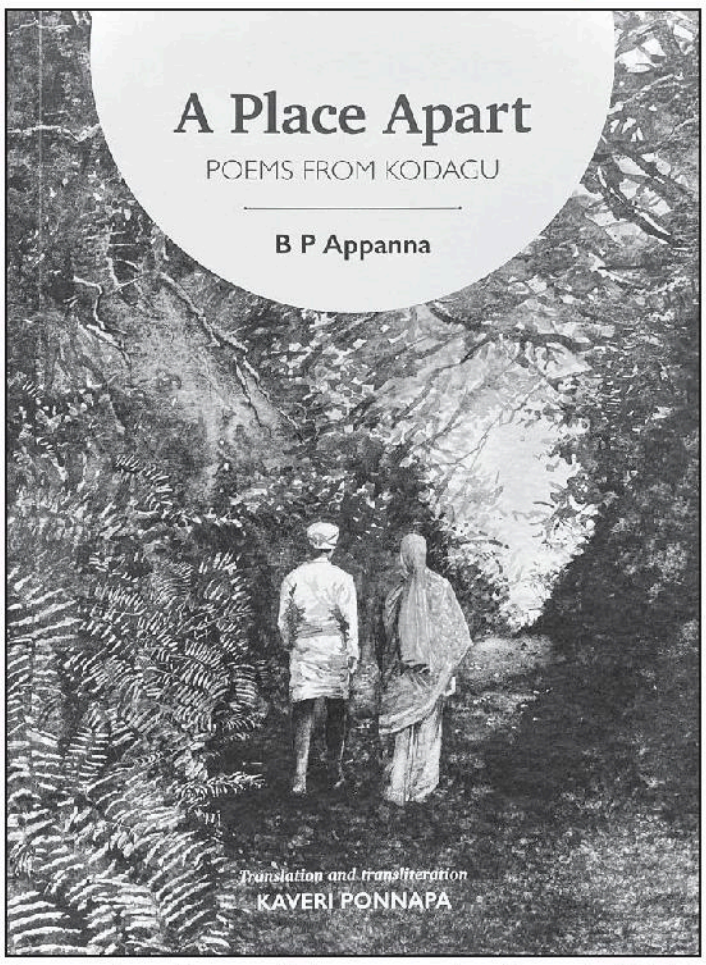
There are two basic forms of writing. One is prose and another verse. Prose is used in speaking and writing, distinct from verse. Prose follows a basic grammatical structure. In verse, poetry, there is compromise on grammar and even use of words and phrases. It is called poetic liberty. It follows a metrical structure.

With this, brief, succinct introduction to prose and verse, let me take on a book that landed on my desk for review and critique. The title of the book *'A Place Apart - Poems From Kodagu,'* is alluring. It is originally written in Kodava language, a dialect, using Kannada script. The author, a junior college lecturer in Kodagu and a Kodava by race.

Much thought and labour seem to have gone into the writing and production of this book which carries both **translation** from Kodava language (written in Kannada script) into English and a **transliteration** where Roman script (english alphabets) is used to write the original poem, just as Kannada is used in the first part of the book that contains 21 poems.

The translation and transliteration are by Kaveri Ponnapa, the famous author of the book *'The Vanishing Kodavas,'* a magnum opus of a pictorial, research-based book on Kodava people, their heritage, culture and a dismal future. She has a Master's Degree in Social Anthropology from London. Naturally, the book acquires its importance because of the quality of the translation and transliteration that enables the reader to understand the sound and pronunciation of the spoken Kodava language.

She has indeed played the role of James Boswell to Dr. Samuel Johnson, the english lexicographer, so to say. Of course, Boswell made Johnson more famous by writing a masterpiece of a biography of the latter. Let it be. But here, the book of 21 selected Kodava poems written by B.P. Appanna and rendered into english by Kaveri Ponnapa, seems like serendipity for B.P.



Appanna in getting a scholar of Kaveri Ponnapa's stature to select his works for this book in english. For me those poems, described elsewhere as 'deceptively simple poems' did not seem to portray, as claimed, 'the sense of dislocation and erosion of identity' of Kodava people at all. This was the subject of Kaveri Ponnapa's book *'The Vanishing Kodavas.'* Here it is a poetic narration of Kodagu's natural beauty — the deep verdant valley, the cloud kissing peaks of mountain ranges, dark forests, wildlife — almost like a prose sans soul, emotion, without igniting imagination in the reader.

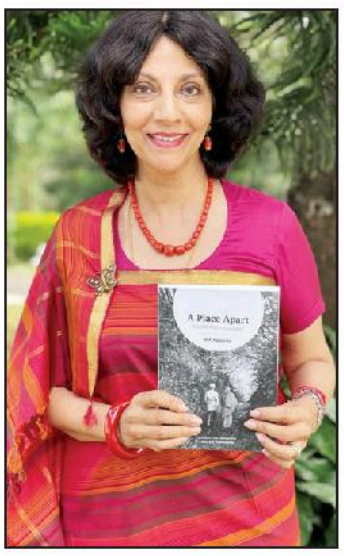
Even so, this book will surely expose the author and the translator to the world outside Kodagu ignorant of Kodagu and Kodavas, a land and its people with distinctive geography and culture.

Kodava language, the dialect, has its vocabulary limited to that of the hunter-gatherer of the early ages related to agriculture, hunting and skirmishes. Naturally, a Kodava writer or a poet has to express himself using these limited vocabulary only. To overcome this handicap, perforce he has to borrow words from another language, here Kannada. Which is why, for example, in one poem where he should have used the pure Kodava word *'Batte'* for road, he has used the word *'Marga',* road in Kannada. May be for the purpose of alliteration in the stanza.

The **transliteration** section of the book is a testimony to Kaveri Ponnapa's patience, tenacity and dedication to her work. It is a transliteration of the Kodava poems (written in Kannada script) using Roman, with a Kodava-english key to reading them. It offers an opportunity to those who do not know Kannada but know english to approach the sound and sense of Kodava language.

According to Kaveri Ponnapa, Romanisation like this will offer a practical opportunity to keep the language alive by reaching out to maximum number of speakers. Indeed, very true. As she further avers, "If we are looking at a way to taking **endangered languages** into the future, we need more speakers (and also readers)."

Here is her final word to those who tried to develop a new script for Kodava language, including the well-known Kodava author I.M. Muthanna. She says: "Languages like Kodava



Kaveri Ponnapa

Takk do not need new scripts, they need more accessible scripts that open them up to a greater number of speakers or readers."

We read in *'Alice in Wonderland',* 'What is a book without pictures' and 'A picture is worth a thousand words.' Fortunately, for the reader of this book, there is much consolation and compensation when he sees those water-colour illustrations of people, places and artefacts of Kodagu the land, by artist Rupesh Nanaiah. Wish they were in colour. They speak about the subject of the book more eloquently than all those words.

I also wish Kaveri Ponnapa had chosen for this book some poems from other Kodava poets also.

There are some brilliant poems written by non-Kodavas about Kodagu and Kodavas like Panje Mangesh Rao, for example. A Kodava Sanyasi of Ramakrishna Ashram Swami Shambhavananda, I.M. Muthanna and others too have written about the people, flora and fauna of Kodagu that evoke nostalgia among the old and the diaspora.

Anyway, *A Place Apart* is a significant contribution to the Kodava community and its literature. The book must adorn every Kodava household and also the libraries of every Kodava Samaja. To purchase the book, contact: Dushyant on *WhatsApp* 99009-99994 or place your order at: *https://www.coorg.com/kaveri.*

e-mail
voice@starofmysore.com

COVID cases

(Continued from page 1)

Five persons between the age group of 0 to 17 tested positive on Thursday while the same number rose to 23 yesterday. The total active cases reached 484 yesterday and 77 have been isolated in dedicated COVID-19 Government Hospitals and 32 in private hospitals. Over 375 have been isolated at home. However, no deaths were reported yesterday.

A total of 7,444 samples were tested out of which 219 came out positive and on Thursday, 5,700 samples were tested where 65 reported positive. DC Dr. Bagadi Gautham said that the KSOU COVID Care Centre can accommodate 600 patients and in the first stage, 200 beds will be made available. Beds will be increased in case of necessity and in case, the KSOU centre is full, another COVID Care Centre will be opened with 700 beds, he added. In Taluks too, the Administration is ready to open COVID Care Centres.

Health Officers

(Continued from page 1)

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Dr. Prasad said that the meeting took stock of the availability of basics like PPE kits, medicines, isolation centres, oxygen plants and supply network at all Taluks. "Today there is no holiday for the Health Department and we are on our toes to ensure public health," he added.

Teams of Health Officers have been sent to all taluks and we are holding a meeting of all Taluk Health Officers in Mysuru today to assess the preparedness and also take stock of the available infrastructure.

In all, 5,713 beds are available in Mysuru District including 1,486 beds at private hospitals. "In addition, over 3,000 beds will be made available in all COVID Care Centres. Our DC has already visited the Mandakalli COVID Care Centre and there, 200 beds are ready. This can be increased to 600. More such facilities will be opened and we have many hospitals at our disposal including Trauma Care Centre, PKTB & CD Hospital (Sanatorium), Seth Mohandas Tulsidas (SMT) Hospital and Princess Krishnajammanni Super Speciality Hospital," he added.

Blood donation camp

Mysuru, Jan. 8- A voluntary blood donation camp will be held in memory of late actor Puneeth Rajkumar on Jan. 11 from 10 am to 2 pm at No. 116, Vinaya Marga, Siddarthanagar, jointly by Lions Jeevadhara, Sri Narendra Modi Seva Trust, Samaja Seva Trust and a faction of Karnataka Rakshana Vedike. For details, contact Mob: 98868-84668.

Weekend curfew: People stay indoors

City Bus Stand and Albert Victor Road, which used to be crowded on normal days, wore a deserted look today.

Mysuru, Jan. 8 (PM&DM)- The usually busy and buzzing Central Business District wore a near deserted look this morning on the first day of the weekend curfew in the new year.

Though grocery, provision, vegetables, food shops and other essential services shops were open in Shivarampet, Santhepet, D. Devaraj Urs Road, K.R. Circle etc., in the heart of the city, most of the shops had only a handful of customers, as people preferred to stay indoors on account of the curfew.

The ever-busy Devaraja Market too witnessed a few customers and vegetable and fruit vendors were seen waiting for customers. Similar was the case in respect of Vanivilas Market at Agrahara Circle and Mandi Market at Mandi Mohalla, the two other major vegetable markets of the city.

With Sankranti, the first major festival of the year, just a week away, many shop-keepers, who were just about returning to their normal business post COVID pandemic, were hoping for a good business. But the curfew seems to have shattered their hopes as business has taken a severe hit due to weekend curfew and other COVID restrictions.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, Devaraja Market Tenants Association President S. Mahadev said that many shops in Devaraja Market sold *puja* articles and they have shut down due to the District Administration's order allowing only essential service shops to open during weekend curfew.

Police checking vehicles in city this morning.

Arguing that it is not correct on the part of officials to classify *puja* articles as non-essential commodity, he maintained that he has come to know that the closure of *puja* articles shops has led to black-marketing, with unscrupulous elements taking advantage of the situation. Contending that *puja* articles too be brought under essential commodities, he wanted the authorities to crack down on black marketing of *puja* articles.

As far as the rest of the scenario is concerned, all shops other than classified as essential services remained closed today. Temples and other places of worship across the city too were closed due to the weekend curfew, it is learnt.

Meanwhile, the Sub-urban and City Bus Stands, which used to be crowded with passengers on normal days, painted an altogether different picture today as there were few passengers at the bus stands.

Sources in the KSRTC said that 50 percent of the buses were operational today, but most of them had to wait for long for passengers to turn up. Buses to Bengaluru, which used to leave the Sub-urban Bus Stand within minutes of each other, had to wait for more than half an hour for passengers.

Similar was the situation in the City Bus Stand, as only a few city buses operated due to lack of passengers. It is learnt that the authorities operated city buses to different localities of the city based on demand and lack of passengers, left the buses parked at the bus stand for long hours.

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Four persons killed in road accidents

(Continued from page 1)

In another incident, a two-wheeler rider who had sustained injuries in a hit-and-run case, breathed his last at K.R. Hospital in the wee hours of today. He is **Mahesh** (32), a resident of T. Narasipur and a liquor vehicle driver.

Mahesh was returning to T. Narasipur after finishing work at about 8.30 pm on Jan. 3 when an unidentified vehicle knocked him down near Duddagere. Mahesh, who sustained serious head injuries, was referred to NIMHANS in Bengaluru. He was later brought back to Mysuru and admitted to K.R. Hospital where he died. Varuna Police have registered a case.

In the fourth incident, a printing press owner was killed in a scooter-car collision that took place near Ittigegud Post Office yesterday. **Kumar** (62), owner of Mayura Printers, is the deceased. He was travelling on his two-wheeler when a car collided with his vehicle. Though the person who was driving the car immediately rushed him to hospital, Kumar died.

Kumar

A case has been registered at Siddarthanagar Traffic Police Station. Brother of BJP leader Kautilya Raghu, Kumar leaves behind his wife, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Advanced Machine Division

CORRIGENDUM - 1

Name of work : Collection of FIM, machining within specified tolerances, inspection, packing and shipment of 100 nos 'Support-L' as per our drawing With reference to the above tender please note the following :

Description in Tender	Indicated in existing Tender document (NIT)	Revised description (To be read as)
Tender Sale period	30/12/2021 to 07/01/2022	30/12/2021 to 13/01/2022, (11:00 hrs to 16:00 hrs)
Due date and time for submission of tender	On or before 14.01.2022 (15:00 Hrs.)	On or before 24.01.2022 (15:00 Hrs.)
Date and time of opening of tender	18.01.2022 (15:00 Hrs.)	25.01.2022 (15:00 Hrs.)
Place for tender submission	Tender Box having identification No.3 at Building No.2	Tender Box having identification No.3 at Building No.2 OR Tender may be sent by post or courier to the O/oPay and Accounts Officer, BARC, Building No.2, Yelwal, Mysuru

All other conditions remain unchanged.

Superintending Engineer
For & on behalf of the President of India

Mysore Memories...

A Visionary Educationist of Mysore -1

Rajakaryapraveena N.S. Subba Rao

*Poet Laureate Rabindranath Tagore described him as a Prince among Men! Trained under Alfred Marshall and a close friend of renowned economist Maynard Keynes, N. S. Subba Rao embodied the very best of the intellectual traditions of Cambridge University. He was a visionary educationist who served the University of Mysore as a Lecturer, Professor, Principal and Vice-Chancellor across three decades. His foresight and landmark contributions in shaping the nascent University paved the way for the next generation of poets, writers and intellectual giants to appear on the scene — the likes of Kuvempu, Ti Nam Sri, S. Srikanta Sastri, G.P. Rajarathnam, T.S. Venkannayya and so on. Here is a small tribute to this visionary genius. —**Ed***

By Dr. Bhagirath S. Naganath

N.S. Subba Rao was born on 14th March 1885 at Srirangapatnam. His father Nanjanagud Subba Raya was a lawyer by profession. N.S. Subba Rao's elder brother N. Narasimha Murthy (M. A., B. L.) was also well-versed in law and worked in the British Resident Mr. Fraser's office at Mysore. Subba Rao also had a younger sister by the name of Kaveramma.

Early years and education

He had his schooling at Srirangapatnam. Completing his matriculation exam in 1897, Subba Rao joined Central College, Bangalore for his F.A. course where he was nurtured well by Prof. J.C. Tate, who is believed to have counted him one among his favourite students ! N.S. Subba Rao with a letter of recommendation from J.C. Tate proceeded to Madras Christian College to pursue his B.A. degree. Here, he came under the influence of Rev. William Skinner and Rev. Earle Monteith MacPhail, who were senior members of the faculty.

He was conferred a Gold Medal in 1904 for securing highest marks in the B.A. exam, the award being Benjamin Jowett's "Dialogues of Plato" volume, something which he treasured till the end. Following his commendable performance in the B.A. exam, he was able to secure from the Mysore Government the prestigious 'Damodar Das Educational Scholarship' which helped him on his way to England for further studies.

Education in England

Armed with a scholarship, he was able to gain admission into St. John's College, Cambridge, to pursue a M.A. degree in Economics. Here, he additionally learnt Latin and French. At Cambridge, Subba Rao came under the tutelage of Alfred Marshall and came in contact with Maynard Keynes. At the end of four years, Subba Rao completed his Tripos exam (M. A. Cantab.) in addition to securing a Bar at Law qualification. His essay titled "Political and Economic Conditions of Ancient India, as described in the Jatakas" earned him the prestigious 'Le Bas' award in 1909.

During his Cambridge years (1905-09), Subba Rao travelled to France, Germany and few other countries on the continent. The lasting impression that Subba Rao left behind at Cambridge would win him lifelong friends — the most prominent among these being Maynard Keynes, the great economist of his time! Keynes went so far as to recommend to the India Office at Calcutta, that a senior position be afforded to this fine gentleman in Her Majesty's Government in India, an offer which Subba Rao kindly declined. His refusal was not so much a decision arising out of an inability to execute the new-found responsibility in governance, but more so an apprehension that his desertion of his obligation to the University of Mysore (UoM) would not go down well with the Maharaja, whose generosity had made his westward sojourn possible in the first place!

N.S. Subba Rao would write many a letter of introduction to successive students who wanted to study in England in the years to come. Many of them later expressed their surprise and amazement at the warmth and affection a simple letter from Subba Rao would elicit in the educational fraternity in England.

N.S. Subba Rao, former VC, University of Mysore

An eminent linguist A.N. Narasimaiah after experiencing such goodwill remarked thus: *"I came to London through Germany and joined the Ph.D class at London University with the help of N.S. Subba Rao's letter of introduction. He is so much loved and respected here by all the educationists."* Incidentally, upon his return to India, when the Diwan of Mysore assembled all the newly returned students from England and enquired as to what each wished to become in the years to come, Subba Rao's answer was one that caught the Diwan's undivided attention. He said, *"I want to be the next Diwan of Mysore!"*

Return to India

N.S. Subba Rao returned to India on 28th October 1909. The next year, that is 1910 at the age of 25 years, he was appointed as a lecturer in Economics at Maharaja College, Mysore, which was then under Madras University. Here, he taught Economics, Political Science, European History and English literature. Among his foremost students during these years was V. Seetharamaiah.

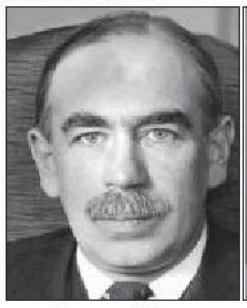
The University of Mysore would formally come into existence on 25th July,1916. By 24th September of the succeeding year (1917), Subba Rao took charge of Principalship from C.R. Reddy and held the post till 1928. In 1919, he was invited to foresee the establishment of the State University in Ceylon — a task which won him much gratitude from the local Sinhalese intelligentsia. In July 1927, Subba Rao attended the Educational Conference as representative of the Mysore Government. His presentations and lectures won him considerable praise in Forewords written subsequently by K. Myathen and E. G. McAlpine.

In his years immediately after returning from Cambridge, Subba Rao maintained a close correspondence with Maynard Keynes and Arthur Cecil Pigou. In one such letter, Subba Rao laments thus:

"...My dearest Keynes,

I found that a good many officers in the Secretariat (in the Mysore State Government Offices) had read your papers in the 'Economic Journal' and in the 'Madras Mail'— which surprised me, as we do not pretend to be up to date here! I miss Cambridge itself. I did not think I had become so fond of the place... You will not believe me if I tell you how often I am back at Cambridge in my waking thoughts and dreams.

With kindest regards,
Yours sincerely,
N. S. Subba Rao"



Maynard Keynes

Ti. Nam. Shri

C. R. Reddy

The University Years

N.S. Subba Rao served the University of Mysore for close to 32 years as Lecturer, Professor, Principal and eventually as its Vice-Chancellor from 1937 - 42. His contributions as an administrator while at the University are far too many to elaborate here. His encouragement for Scouts and Guides movement is well-remembered. The establishment of University Co-operative Society in 1923 was a positive step in the direction of looking after the financial travails of a poorly remunerated academic fraternity. Subba Rao unfailingly espoused the cause of Kannada language while championing the idea of imparting western scientific education in the native vernacular. In this direction, by July 1935 he introduced Kannada medium of instruction in High Schools across the State.

Ti. Nam. Shri

During his years as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Mysore, N.S. Subba Rao is remembered to have remarked thus to Ti. Nam. Sri: *"Lectures and speeches, however well-delivered, last only for a brief period in the hearts and minds of people. If one were to create a lasting legacy, then one has to 'publish' these in print and hence a dedicated publishing division was required."* This longing resulted in Subba Rao foreseeing the establishment of a dedicated publishing and cataloguing wing, which would later come to be known as 'Prasaranga'!

[To be continued]

Close shave for foresters as tusker attacks vehicle

Gundlupet, Jan. 8 (SOMG& BCT)- Four Forest Department personnel from the Bandipur Tiger Reserve had a miraculous escape when a wild jumbo attacked their vehicle at Omkar Range in Bandipur forest of Gundlupet taluk in the early hours of yesterday.

According to a press release by the Forest Department, the personnel, Deputy Range Forest Officer (DRFO) K.P. Amar, employees Madappa, Shivu and Rajanna, were travelling by the jeep during an operation to chase the wild jumbos that had strayed into the villages, when an irked tusker attacked the vehicle.

The incident occurred at Neeralla area under Omkara Forest Range at 6.30 am. The forest personnel were trying to drive the elephant — that had strayed into the human population living on the fringes of the forests — back into the woods, forest officials said.

Villagers had complained about the elephant menace and the Department had initiated the operation. The elephant chasing operation was launched near a water body at Omkar Range where the elephant herd had camped.

The marauding tusker barged towards the vehicle and stamped the front portion and rammed it with its tusks. So fierce was the attack that the front portion of the vehicle was completely damaged and the jumbo pushed around the vehicle, even overturning it.

Despite being injured, the foresters managed to scare the tusker away and saved their lives. The staff later somehow managed to wriggle out of the mangled vehicle after the elephant left the place.

Gundlupet Assistant Conservator of Forest (ACF) K. Paramesh and Omkar RFO H.N. Nagendra Nayaka rushed to the spot and said that the employees were safe and were being treated for injuries. The Begur Police have registered a case.

District Minister seeks public co-operation for tackling COVID

Somashekar

Mysuru, Jan. 8 (DM)- Maintaining that it has become inevitable for the State Government to take some tight measures for checking the spread of the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, District Minister S.T. Somashekar has appealed the public for joining hands with the Government to eradicate the pandemic.

In a press release issued on Friday in the wake of weekend curfew, Somashekar said that the District Administration has been instructed to take all necessary measures for COVID control.

Pointing out that a night curfew is already in place, the Minister sought full public co-operation for making the weekend curfew a success as a measure to contain the spread of the virus.

Noting that only essential and emergency services have been allowed during the weekend curfew, Somashekar said the Police have set up check-posts for strict enforcement of the curfew.

Appealing the people not to unnecessarily venture out of their homes, he said that the public must co-operate with the Police Department during weekend curfew.

Referring to vaccine coverage in the district, Somashekar said it has been targeted to achieve 100 percent vaccination in respect of second dose. Asking the people to go for isolation once they are found having symptoms, he said that the people can also get admitted to hospitals following the advice of doctors.

Asserting that the District Administration has made preparations such as oxygen supplies, availability of beds and ventilators etc. for treatment of COVID patients, he said that the people need not panic as the Government has kept all medical facilities ready for meeting any emergencies.

Stressing on the need for everyone to follow COVID appropriate behaviour and as well as other Government guidelines, he reiterated the importance of public co-operation for tackling the deadly pandemic.

JD(S) MLC appeals Congress to postpone 'Mekedatu padayatra'

Marithibbegowda

Mysuru, Jan. 8- Even as the Congress is determined to go on with its planned 10-day 'Mekedatu Padayatra' starting from Jan. 9, JD(S) MLC Marithibbegowda has appealed the Congress to defer its padayatra at least until the COVID pandemic, which is witnessing a sudden spurt in the past few days, shows signs of abating. In a press statement, Marithibbegowda said that the Mekedatu project will help both Karnataka and Tamil Nadu in distress situations.

Maintaining that the project is a very important one for Karnataka, he said that the project has reached a level after persistent demands and agitations.

Pointing out that every party has the right to take out a padayatra for the cause of people and the state, the MLC said that the Congress announced the date (Jan.9) of its Mekedatu Padayatra only after the JD(S) declared that it will set out on a padayatra to press for execution of Mekedatu project. But, the deadly COVID pandemic has raised its ugly head once again with cases rising exponentially across the state in the past 5-6days, causing widespread concerns among the public.

As such, the Congress should consider postponing its 10-day Mekedatu Padayatra that starts from Jan.9, taking into account the health and safety of the people.

Cautioning that any padayatra at this point of time may lead to another health crisis, he reiterated that the Congress should postpone its Padayatra for the sake of public health and well-being, the statement said.

JD(S) to launch Mission 'Janata Jaladhare' on Jan. 26

Bengaluru, Jan. 8 (KMS&DM)- As a counter to the Congress, which is all set to launch 'Mekedatu Padayatra' and the ruling BJP, the JD(S) will set out on a 'Janata Jaladhare' Mission from Jan. 26, with the promise of appropriate usage of water in all rivers of the State, if the party is voted to power with a full majority in the next Assembly elections.

Speaking to press persons at the party headquarters in Benglauru on Friday, top JD(S) leader and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy said that the 'Janata Jaladhare' Mission (Abhiyaana) will go on till the 2023 Assembly polls.

Detailing the salient features of the Mission, Kumaraswamy said that the Mission is aimed to cover 51 places in 140 taluks that have been identified as river origins.

Maintaining that an integrated plan has been prepared for best use of water available in all rivers of the State, he said the party has also evolved plans for supplying potable water to every household in the State and for providing water for agricultural activities across the length and breadth of the State in all seasons.

Noting that 15 teams have been formed for the Mission, Kumaraswamy said these teams to be led by senior party leaders, will visit the origin of rivers and perform puja as part of the Mission.

Asserting that the Mission will be launched on Jan. 26 if COVID cases are contained by then, the former CM said that, however, it is inevitable to postpone it if the deadly pandemic is not brought under control by Jan. 26.

Kumaraswamy further said that 15 'Ganga Ratha' vehicles will set off on Jan. 23 in all directions to cover various parts of the State. The vehicles will be flagged off by JD(S) Supremo and former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda at Chamundeshwari Temple in Ramanagara on Jan. 23, he added.

Obituary

D. Annayyappa

Mysuru, Jan. 8- D. Annayyappa (80), son of late Doddayellappa and a resident of Urs Road passed away this morning following a heart attack.

He leaves behind his three daughters, brothers including former Mayor Dhruvakumar and sisters. His wife and a son had predeceased him. Cremation took place at the foot of Chamundi Hill this afternoon.

Madivalara Puttabasava

Madivalara Puttabasava (Puttanna) of Belavadi village in Mysuru passed away yesterday. He was 73.

He leaves behind his wife Shantamma, son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren. Last rites were held today.

WORD OF THE DAY

Sully

Pronunciation: SUL-ee.
Meaning: To make soiled or tarnished.
Origin: The spelling of sully has shifted several times since it was sylian in Old English, but its meaning has remained essentially the same: "to soil." In case you are wondering whether sullen (meaning "gloomy or morose") is a relative, the answer is "no." Sullen comes from Latin solus, meaning "alone."
Example: "When she began living next to the beach in Barcelona, New Yorker Elizabeth Sherr was distressed to see all the cigarette butts and litter sullying its golden sand. The 24-year-old began a campaign to pick up the rubbish piece by piece, posting videos on TikTok encouraging others to get involved." — Graham Keeley

THE ODD WORD

Sabaton

Foot-covering as part of suit of armour.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

See eye to eye

Meaning: It is used when you view something in the same way as others do, or that you agree with someone about something.
Origin: While many idioms are relatively new, the origin of the idiom 'see eye to eye' is quite old; in fact, it's ancient and is found in the Bible. In Isaiah 52:8, we read "The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion."
Example: "I'm glad that we see eye to eye on the project's details."

QUOTE BOX

The eyes shout what the lips fear to say.— **William Henry**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

BARD
BARN
BARE

Answer: End up behind bars.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

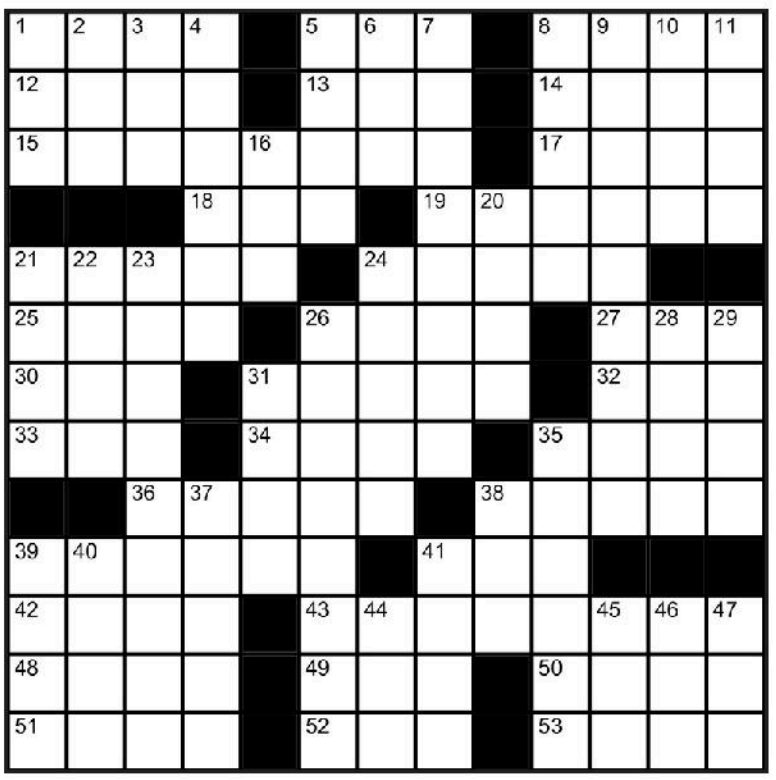
1 Large mop
5 Required Navigation Performance
8 Construction piece
12 Singer Coolidge
13 A scull
14 ___ bene: note well; take notice?
15 An instrument for examining the ear
17 Self-satisfied
18 First in short
19 Quality of sound?
21 Destroy or ruin
24 Boos or jeers?
25 Types of East Indian shrubs
26 Prefix meaning `to do with aircraft'
27 Hormone replacement therapy, abbr.
30 Large Scale Integration, abbr.
31 What an insurance company has to settle?
32 Equal opportunity employer abbr
33 Frequency unit
34 "M*A*S*H" star
35 Priests' robes
36 Lay out
38 City in Europe - "Earls" anagram?
39 Not any person
41 Vitality
42 Strange "Dane" to be in the Yemen
43 Can be aped
48 "Retired" in short ?
49 Maiden name prefix
50 Food plan
51 ___ Na Pyar Hai?
52 Deity - the Almighty
53 Shivering fit

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

G	U	S	H	E	S	■	G	E	T	S	U	P
L	■	H	E	A	P	■	U	R	E	■	■	A
O	■	O	P	T	I	C	I	A	N	■	■	W
A	N	P	■	S	C	A	N	T	■	B	A	N
T	A	K	E	■	E	D	E	■	H	I	D	E
S	E	E	M	E	D	■	A	P	O	G	E	E
■	■	E	O	N	■	■	■	H	A	H	■	■
T	I	P	T	O	P	■	P	I	G	E	O	N
I	D	E	E	■	U	T	E	■	Y	A	M	A
T	O	R	■	T	R	I	A	D	■	R	S	T
T	■	■	D	I	S	C	R	E	E	T	■	U
L	■	■	M	O	E	■	L	O	D	E	■	R
E	X	C	E	S	S	■	S	L	U	D	G	E

DOWN

1 Sellout sign: abbr.
2 A sense of humour
3 Start of a vol. 1 heading
4 Essentials
5 Plant part
6 A short day sleep
7 Transvaal capital
8 Map part
9 A shocking surprise
10 Local man's name - "Tula" anagram?
11 Fury
16 Chennai based IPL team
20 Space available
21 Go on foot
22 Impetuous
23 Reigning monarch of England
24 Intoxicating
26 Calming
28 Grand garment
29 Hardy heroine
31 Stiff paper
35 Spanish fleet
37 Musical composition
38 River islet
39 A police informer?
40 Halls, theatres
41 Competed in dive
44 Medium Earth Orbit
45 Large in size
46 A coin and monetary unit of Rumania, equal to 100 bani
47 Estimated Time En route



SUDOKU

	6		8	2				1
	7		9	3				4
						3	6	
		1	7			6		9
8		4			2	7		
	1	3						
2				7	9		3	
7				8	3		4	

Answer to previous puzzle

1	4	8	6	7	9	5	3	2
3	2	6	8	1	5	4	9	7
7	5	9	2	4	3	6	1	8
9	1	7	4	8	2	3	6	5
6	3	5	7	9	1	8	2	4
4	8	2	5	3	6	1	7	9
2	7	4	3	6	8	9	5	1
5	6	1	9	2	4	7	8	3
8	9	3	1	5	7	2	4	6

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

ZRC'J XRJIQF PYGJ JR XQ XQJJQF JITC ERYF URCJQBHRFTFMQG

RF HFQZQUQGGRFG. JFE JR XQ XQJJQF JITC ERYFGQOA.

TODAY'S CLUE: Z EQUALS D

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: People who have what they want are fond of telling people who haven't what they want that they really don't want it.

Akkarai Sisters perform at 8th Cross Heritage Music Festival

Akkarai Sisters — Vidu. Akkarai Subhalakshmi and Vidu. Akkarai Sornalatha — presenting a violin duet at 8th Cross, V.V. Mohalla, last evening as part of the 60th Heritage Music Festival organised by Sri Prasanna Vidya Ganapathi Mandali Charitable (SPVGMC) Trust. They were accompanied by Vid. Sai Giridhar on mridanga and Vid. Giridhar Udupa on ghata. Picture right shows a section of the music-lovers at the venue. The concerts scheduled for today and tomorrow have been postponed due to weekend curfew. On Monday (Jan. 10), Vid. Kunnakudi M. Balamuralikrishna will present a vocal concert accompanied by Vidu. Akkarai Subhalakshmi on violin, Vid. Patri Satish Kumar on mridanga and Vid. Suresh Vaidyanathan on morching. [Only those who have taken two doses of COVID vaccine can attend the event]

City fighters win medals at National Kickboxing Championships

The medal winners — (from left - front row) M. Satyanand, Md. Adnaan, Afreed Khan, Mohamed Abaan, Manav D. Sangwan, Ahmed, Mohamed Eshan and Syed Abubakar — are seen with Elite Academy Founder and Chief Instructor Mohamed Farjath Iyaz and Manager Sameena Tabbasum.

Mysuru, Jan. 8- Fighters of Elite Academy, Mysuru, have excelled in the WAKO National Kickboxing Championships-2021 organised by Amateur Sports Kickboxing Association, Maharashtra, at Balewadi, Pune, in September.

Syed Abubakar clinched Gold medals in the Seniors Category while **M. Satyanand** bagged Gold and Silver Medal in the Sub-Junior category.

Ahmed, Mohammed Adnaan, Mohamed Abaan and Mohamed Eshan won Gold Medal and **Afreed Khan** won Gold and Silver Medals in the Junior Category. **Manav D. Sangwan** won Gold Medal in Youngest Cadets.

All the fighters are trained by Mohamed Farjath Iyaz, Chief Instructor and Founder of Elite Academy.

The events, subject to Government approval, will act as selection trials for the upcoming Asian Kickboxing Championships. Over 1,500 participants from all over India, nearly 21 States took part in this event which was divided into 7 categories (Musical Form, Point Fighting, Kick Light, Low Kick, Light Contact, Full Contact and K-1).

Tennis: Wins U-14 and U-16 titles

Mysuru, Jan. 8- C.N. Varunya, a student of St. Joseph's Central School, Vijayanagar, has won the Girls U-14 and U-16 State-level Mysore Junior Tennis Tournament organised by Topserve Tennis Academy at Mysore Tennis Club on Dec. 26.

Daughter of Rotarian Naveen Chand and Rashmitha, Varunya is trained by Raghuveer, Ace Tennis Coach.

In both U-14 and U-16 finals, Varunya beat Arzan Khorakiwala 7-2 and 5-1 respectively to clinch titles.

C.N. Varunya

Weekend Curfew

City Libraries closed

Mysuru, Jan. 8 (BNR)- With the State Government imposing weekend curfew to contain the spread of COVID-19 and Omicron, the Department of Public Libraries has decided to close all the libraries across the district on Saturday and Sunday.

Accordingly, the City Central Library will remain closed on Jan. 8, 9, 15 and 16. However, the Library will function on all Mondays and second Tuesdays till further orders, according to a press release from Dy. Director of District Central Library.

PRO KABADDI

Today's Matches (JAN. 8)

UP Yoddha Vs Dabang Delhi	7.30 pm
U Mumba Vs Telugu Titans	8.30 pm
Gujarat Giants Vs Patna Pirates	9.30 pm

Tomorrow's Matches (JAN. 9)

Puneri Paltan Vs Bengal Warriors	7.30 pm
Bengaluru Bulls Vs UP Yoddha	8.30 pm

Yesterday's Results

Bengal Warriors	37
Lose to	
Haryana Steelers	41
Jaipur Pink Panthers	31
Beat	
Puneri Paltan	26

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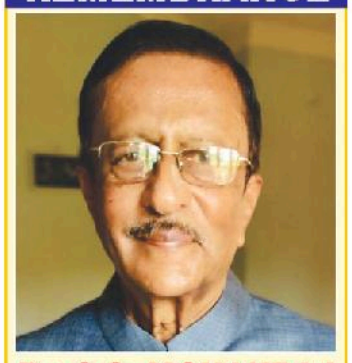
REMEMBRANCE



Dr. C.S. MOHANRAJ
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Shraddhanjali

Dr. D. Rajagopal Rao

Former acting director, CSIR – CFTRI, Mysuru; passed away at home after a brief acute illness on 6th January 2022.

He had been ailing for four years and was confined to house and wheel chaired. He was the Son of Late Sri. D. V. Narasimha Rao, a founder of NIE.

He headed the Dept. of Biochemistry and specialized in Protein Chemistry and was the Chairman of the Food Sciences division for long.

He was an alumni of the IISC, a PHD from Philadelphia, and a post doc from San Francisco Medical Centre.

A visiting senior research at John Curtin School of Medicine, Canberra, Australia. Alexander Von Humboldt fellow at Koln (Cologne) at the Institute of Biochemistry and a visiting professional fellow at the University of Edinburgh. His abiding interests in Biochemistry, classical fundamental and modern mechanism, a person to go to, by his colleagues, contemporaries and students.

His family, Dr.D. Vijaya Rao, children Aditya and Brinda have lost a very modern thinking, humane, generous and kind member of their house. His family Desiraju in Mysore, Bangalore and Bapatla and his friends in IISC, CFTRI and Rotary shall mourn his demise.

He was a patron of the CSIR Pensioners Welfare Association, CFTRI and until his illness was an active member of the association.

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